been institutionalised through the ICDS infrastructure. Programmes of action and advocacy are being implemented to project positive images of girl children so as to bring about changes in societal attitudes towards them.

UN Report on child abuse

670. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a new United Nations report on child abuse mentioning that young children from India are still being sold as jockeys for camel racing in the Gulf States or as young brides to older men in Saudi Arabia; and

(b) if so, how Government propose to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir. Attention of the Government has been drawn to the Interim Report submitted by the Special Rapportour on Sale of Child Prostitution and Child Pornography appointed by the UN Commission on Human Rights. The Report, inter-alia, touches all issues such as forms of child abuse, e.g. abduction, child jockeys for camel racing and child brides being married to older men from the Gulf States, etc. The Report deals with these issues and problems in the regional prospective and refers to the situation in other countries as well.

(b) Government have already taken necessary steps to sensitise officers of the Police Department to take immediate legal action whenever such incident comes to their notice. In order to check this practice, immigration authorities have been directed to be more vigilant while scrutinizing the travel documents of the persons (including Indians) accompanying such minor children and/or minor brides at the immigration check points.

Source of livelihood of tribals

671. SHRI RAJENDRA PRASAD MODY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the main source of livelihood of the tribals in Tribal Sub Plan area;

(b) the thrust area identified in the Eight Plan to increase their income and new avenues of employment to the tribals; and

(c) the total amount proposed to be spent during the Eighth Five Year Plan period on Human Resource Development through education and vocational/craftsman training to improve the skills of the Tribals?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The main sources of livelihood of tribals in Tribal Sub-Plan area vary from region to region and differ within communities of tribal groups in India. But, generally they depend mainly on agriculture and related activities including agricultural labour and collection of minor forest produce. The income of tribals also comes through hendicrafts, leaf plate making, bee-keeping and weaving etc.

(b) The thrust areas identified are taking up family oriented beneficiary programmes through raising productivity level of the beneficiary families in the field of agdiculture horiticulture, animal husbandary and small industries etc, vocational training for self-employment, procurement and marketing of Surplus Agricultural Produce and Minor Forest Produce and Employment Assurance Scheme etc.

(c) The total amount proposed to be spent by this Ministry on Human Resource Development through education and vocational/craftsman training to improve the skills of tribals is Rs. 60 crores besides Rs. 337.60 crores under schemes for Post-Matric Scholarship, Book Banks and Upgradation of Merit of students which are both for SC/ST students.

Meeting on Children's Welfare

672. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICCW (Indian Council for Child Welfare) recently organised